

Agriculture --- Florida's Opportunity

Conducted by W. E. Pabor

PRELUDE.

"I planted scorn; it died in the garden mold.
I planted love; it bore a flower of gold.
I planted doubt; it withered, lacking root.
I planted faith; it ripened precious fruit."
—Lippencott's Magazine.

"Who said December's face was grim?
Who said her voice was harsh and sad?
I heard her sing in wood-paths dim,
I met her on the shore, so glad,
So smiling, I could kiss her feet!
There never was a month so sweet."
—Lucy Larcom.

True as to Florida.

"Thanks be to God! to whom earth owes sunshine
and breeze,
The wealth clad hills, the vale's repose, streamlet and
seas,
The snowdrop and the summer rose, the many-voiced
trees."

—Frances Ridley Havergal.

"For the fruit of the time of our toil,
For whatever we have fought for;
Whether born of the brain or the soil
Be the meed we have sought for;
For the gifts we have had from His hand
Who is Lord of the living,
Let there ring through the length of the land
A Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!"
—Clinton Scollard.

The New York Packer of last week has this item in its editorial columns: "A press dispatch from Frisco says that California orange growers now have a \$1 a hundred-pound rate to London, which enables them to compete with Florida in the London market. Remarkable! Let's see how many Florida oranges went across last year?" The answer is easy, Mr.

Packer. None. Our oranges find a ready market in our own country, and have no need to seek a foreign one.

A young woman in Iowa is the champion corn-husker of the State, making a record of 130 bushels in nine hours. She boasted she could beat her brothers and easily won out, also winning the piano her father promised her if she succeeded in the contest for the championship. Her nimble fingers got away with a bushel in about four minutes. If she rattles the ivories of the piano at the same rate, what a fanfare of music will follow. "Give women a chance," cry the female suffragists. Heaven help us. She takes them whether we will or no.

The Leesburg Commercial of December 1st contains an excellent report on "Lake County at the Fair," written by Commissioner Fabian, which we would like to reproduce in our columns did space permit, but can only file away for future reference.

The eggplant paragraph found elsewhere is now matched by a tomato plant at Manatee, six foot in height, and full of the blossoms of the love apple of other days.

There are 10,000 hothouses in the vicinity of Brussels, devoted to the growing of grapes. The size of each is about 65x80 feet long and 25 wide. A ready market is found in England, Germany, Russia and Denmark at about 15 cents per pound. A small quantity reaches our country. The industry has grown up within the last forty years; begun as an experiment, says Consul General Roosevelt, writing to the Washington department of commerce, it now ranks as one of the most flourishing and profitable industries in the district.

This is what an exchange pointedly asks: "Who wants goat's milk? Secretary Wilson is making ready to furnish the Malta goat, who is the Jersey

milker of his race, but mothers are warned that the baby is in danger of the Malta fever, which goes with the goat as its yellow brother thravels only through the Stegomyia. What shall be done with the "scientist" who deliberately imports a new disease and omits the smallest care to guard against its dissemination throughout the country?" But then, the honorable Secretary must keep himself before the public, you know, and so keep his place.

The shipment of a solid carload of lettuce from Gainesville recently, indicates that Alachua County is traveling closely on the heels of Putnam and other counties where the succulent salad ingredient is being grown. It is said to be the first full carload shipped from Florida, and must surely prove to be an object lesson to the North.

All Florida fruit growers will watch with eager interest the litigation now in the courts between the Griffing Bros. Company and the Armour Fertilizer Company for alleged failure to supply the ammonia guaranteed by the Armour Company in their supply of fertilizer for the large peach orchard of the complainant. Damage to the extent of \$20,000 is alleged.

The farmers about Hastings are to be congratulated on the evidences of prosperity about their section, as shown by the completion of excellent roadways through the farms and gardens, to connect with the principal thoroughfare to the railway station. And not the least important feature is the planting of trees on each side of this main road, giving a vista of beauty that will be appreciated by young and old. The example is one that commends itself to other sections of Florida.

Leon County comes to the front with a pecan tree yielding eight bushels of nuts as evidence that the county has good soil for other nuts than goobers.

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Where Weary Workers Win Welcome

It is a live town—it is a beautiful town.

If there is anything wrong with it, be sure it is only "growing pains" that will develop its strength and enable its stature. A common remark of visitors is: "This town has a future." Her citizens believe it, and in that faith and for that future her sons work with willing hands, stout hearts and loyal lives.

The recent growth of White Springs, while not in any sense a "boom," has been phenomenal, or would be to anyone who did not know the place, and know that its real merits and advantages must make it advance rapidly and steadily. It has the solidity of tradition as well as the ambition of enterprise. In its early history such names and families as the Cones, the Spencers, Gerrys, Knight, Tysons, Robarts, Adams, Wessons, Goodbreads, Thomases, Browards, McAlpins, Sheffields and Caruths, and descendants of these fine old families still are citizens of the grand old town, and without letting go of old-time conservatism, grasp what is best in the newest progress, and so make the basis of the growth of White Springs safe and sure.

Among the attractions which bring White Springs many new and permanent residents, may be mentioned:

A school under the able direction of Prof. A. W. Jackson and skilled and experienced assistants, is in thorough training and conscientious effort for true education in its best sense second to none. The building, a large brick structure, is a tight fit for the three hundred pupils, and will soon have to be enlarged.

A weekly paper—well, that speaks for itself. Hotel accommodations, considering prices and advantages, not equaled anywhere. The Hamilton, The Telford, Paxton's, Horne's, High's; then, for dainty, quiet private board, The Spring Lodge, The Oaks, The Pritchard and many others. For its business enterprise, walk through portions of Bridge and Spring Streets, and find a first-class, finely-equipped bank. President, Mr. Blackwell; cashier, Mr. H. C. Peace. Three physicians, Dr. Stith, a gentleman from Kentucky, resident here for three years, who has built up an extensive practice and gained, by his unvarying success, the trust and confidence of a large clientele. Dr. I. P. Allred, resident here for five years. Dr. McMannen, an "old-timer" from North Carolina, but resident here since 1867.

Two large and attractive drugstores, Dr. Stith's and Dr. Allred's.

Three dental physicians, Drs. Ivey Kendrick, Cawthorn and Mizell. Merchants and cotton factors, S. L. Pritchard & Co., J. H. Long and C. F. Cone, Jr., Adams Bros., under the special management of Nat Adams, and T. A. Edwards & Son. General merchandise, Messrs. Patterson, Pursley, Milton, Moore & Carver, Boone, Miles and Harrison. Millinery, Stanley & Brown and Mrs. Oates.

Jewelry and optical goods, Mobly & Ives. Bakery and restaurant, Mrs. G. B. Rouse. Meat market, managed by A. F. Hudson. Three livery stables, Joe Harris. Those who have been coming here for years can remember when he met the trains at Welborn before the advent of the G. S. & F., and from then until now the public has had the same reliable dependable service, and has kept pace with the times. Williamson & Knowles, Bridge Street Stables, stocked with new, stylish, up-to-date equipages and teams, also A. E. Highs.

There are three contractors and builders, Messrs. Waldon, Bynum and Brown. Mr. Bynum is now engaged in making our sand streets pleasant drive-ways. Two iron work and repair shops, Messrs. O'Quinn and Brown and J. T. Milligan.

The postoffice, recently raised from fourth to third class, is well served by H. F. Alexander, with the able assistance of Mrs. Ida Green.

Amusements—A first-class lyceum course at the Casino, many independent good shows, and an occasional amateur drama; a fine bowling alley and a good basket ball team; billiard parlor.

There is a scene here about this season one can scarcely omit from a notice of our town.

Over the bridge across the Suwannee, down Jasper pike, over the quaint old Benton road, in a steady stream pours in the foamy flood of long staple cotton. From the big four-mule team to the two-wheeled cart with an aged negro astride an ox, the county sends its wealth to town.

It is a beautiful town.

The spring is beauty itself, clear as crystal, sparkling as champagne, coating its rocky floor with emerald and ivory; pouring its life-giving waters in a volume of over thirty thousand gallons per minute. The banks of the storied Suwannee—more picturesque at this point than anywhere else in its sinuous course. High bluffs tower above the "black water," silvery sanded bluffs, softened with fringes of palmetto, guarded by sentinel pines, crested with fern-like foliage of the big-kneed cypress, ribbed with the creamy rocks fused in some primal furnace, and

prisoning seashells, coral and starfish. Surrounded by spreading live oaks are many beautiful cottage homes of the citizens. For though town of hotels and boarding houses as it is, it is also a town of homes.

Dr. Camp's, with its ample porches; Mr. Culpepper's, Mrs. Adams, overlooking the Suwannee; Mr. Morgan's, of the Florida Railroad Commission; Mrs. Allred's rock cottage, Mrs. Roberts' vine-covered and dainty cottage, Mrs. Hodges, Mr. Johnson, the Methodist parsonage, Mrs. Edwards, B. F. Bullock, Mrs. Kendrick, Mrs. Williamson, and—well, to name all the pretty cottages and all the good citizens that make the town an ideal place of residence, would be to reduce this article to a census and a directory.

Commercially, no town of its size ranks higher. To the old-established firms of Adams Bros., S. L. Pritchard & Co., T. A. Edwards & Son, new firms are constantly being added. Among them are Messrs. J. N. Milton, Moore & Carver, Knowles & Smith, W. W. High, J. M. Miles & Harrison.

The analysis of the spring by Prof. N. A. Pratt, M. D., chemist, show one million parts contain solid mineral contents, 188 parts consisting of:

Sulphuric acid	17.02
Chlorine	12.24
Lime	44.00
Magnesia	8.51
Organic matter	21.32
Phosphoric acid, with oxide of iron	trace
Silicic acid (soluble)	14.40
Potash	7.13
Soda	18.20
Carbonic acid	44.18

In addition the water contains free gases, viz.: Hydrogene, sulphide, carbonic acid, oxygen, nitrogen. The constituents, as per analysis, are probably combined as follows, per 1,000,000 parts:

Potassic chloride	11.32
Sodic chloride	11.23
Organic matter	21.32
Magnesia sulphate	25.53
Sodic carbonate	20.91
Calcic carbonate or bi-carb.	80.50
Ferrous oxide (phosphoric acid trace)	1.40
Silicic acid (soluble)	14.40

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